

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

-v-

No. 19 CR 651-LTS

VALENTIN PETRESCU, ANDRIE RUSU,

Defendants.

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ORDER

A pretrial conference is scheduled to take place via teleconference in the above captioned case on **December 1, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.** involving the above captioned defendants. The Court will schedule separate conferences for the remaining defendants. As requested, defense counsel will be given an opportunity to speak with their clients by telephone for fifteen minutes before the sentencing proceeding begins (i.e., at **8:45 a.m.**); defense counsel should make sure to answer the telephone number that was previously provided to Chambers at that time.

To access the call, the parties must dial **888-363-4734**, enter the access code **1527005#**, and the security code **2480#**. (Members of the press and public may call the same number, but will not be permitted to speak during the hearing.) In accordance with the Court's Emergency Individual Rules and Practices in Light of COVID-19, counsel should adhere to the following rules and guidelines during the conference:

1. Each party should designate a single lawyer to speak on its behalf (including when noting the appearances of other counsel on the telephone).
2. Counsel should use a landline whenever possible, should use a headset instead of a speakerphone, and must mute themselves whenever they are not speaking to eliminate background noise. In addition, counsel should not use voice-activated

systems that do not allow the user to know when someone else is trying to speak at the same time.

3. To facilitate an orderly teleconference and the creation of an accurate transcript, counsel are *required* to identify themselves every time they speak. Counsel should spell any proper names for the court reporter. Counsel should also take special care not to interrupt or speak over one another.
4. If there is a beep or chime indicating that a new caller has joined while counsel is speaking, counsel should pause to allow the Court to ascertain the identity of the new participant and confirm that the court reporter has not been dropped from the call.

Persons granted remote access to proceedings are reminded of the general prohibition against photographing, recording, and rebroadcasting of court proceedings.

Violation of these prohibitions may result in sanctions, including removal of court issued media credentials, restricted entry to future hearings, denial of entry to future hearings, or any other sanctions deemed necessary by the court.

SO ORDERED.

Dated: New York, New York
November 24, 2020

/s/ Laura Taylor Swain
LAURA TAYLOR SWAIN
United States District Judge